

1 39. (New) The method according to claim 38 wherein the repositioning step  
2 is carried out by moving the data head in a direction generally perpendicular to the first data  
3 tracks.

1 40. (New) The method according to claim 36 further comprising continuing  
2 to move the data head along extensions of the first and second data tracks, said extensions  
3 passing adjacent to data head support surfaces.

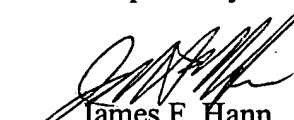
REMARKS

Claims 31-40 remain in this case.

Independent **claims 31 and 35**, are supported by the disclosure of Smith patent number 5,107,099 so that they obtain the benefit of the filing date of April 24, 1989 of the Smith patent.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (650) 326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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